

## United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Winnemucca Field Office 5100 East Winnemucca Boulevard Winnemucca, Nevada 89445 http://www.nv.blm.gov



In Reply Refer To: 8320 (NV025.11)

## Dear Interested Public,

This letter is sent as notice that the Soldier Meadows Recreation Management Plan and Environmental Assessment (EA) is available for review and public comment. You were contacted due to your past interest in BLM planning efforts at the Soldier Meadows or in the Black Rock Desert – High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area (NCA). Please find the Draft Soldier Meadows Recreation Plan and Environmental Assessment on the BLM Winnemucca Website at <a href="http://www.nv.blm.gov/Winnemucca">http://www.nv.blm.gov/Winnemucca</a>.

This plan is a revision of the Soldier Meadows Activity Plan, which was signed in 1997, but was never implemented. The revisions took into account new information regarding recreation use and species distribution in the hot spring area. This plan would also implement decisions from the newly drafted Resource Management Plan for the NCA. The revised plan, which is scheduled for implementation in September of 2004, has been funded in part by a Challenge Cost Share program, which is intended to restore and protect sensitive habitats in the Soldier Meadows Area of Critical Environmental Concern. This cooperative effort would provide recreation opportunities consistent with the protection of sensitive resources and primitive character of the Soldier Meadows hot spring area.

All comments must be received at the Winnemucca Field Office by Monday, August 9, 2004. Hard copies are available by request from the Winnemucca Field Office. If you should have any questions regarding the Environmental Assessment or the public comment process, please contact Dave Lefevre by phone at (775) 623-1500, or by e-mail at <a href="mailto:david\_lefevre@nv.blm.gov">david\_lefevre@nv.blm.gov</a>. Thanks for your interest and participation in this very important planning process.

Sincerely,

David C. Cooper NCA Manager